

Remarks

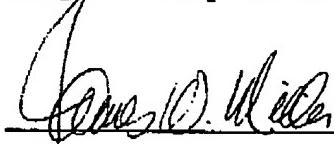
The Office Action of September 26, 2005 has been carefully reviewed by the undersigned attorney. The telephone interview held this date with Examiner Hunter is gratefully acknowledged. Examiner Hunter and his supervisor indicated that this application would be allowed if amended as has been done herein.

The French reference is a collapsible yardstick comprising three pieces used to measure the height of a tennis net at the center of the net. It teaches nothing with respect to a singles stick that must structurally hold the net cord up to convert to regulation singles play. It also does not teach the simple two piece nature of the Applicant's device which has sufficient strength to be able to support the net cord even if a tennis ball hits the net close to the singles stick. A singles stick with more than two pieces inherently has less strength as a support column.

Claim 27 has been amended to recite the two piece nature of the singles stick of this invention. Accordingly, claim 27 and its dependent claims including new dependent claim 36 should be allowed.

All of the claims remaining in this application are believed to clearly define over the prior art of record. Accordingly, prompt reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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